



Spon Lane, Grendon, Warwickshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Spon Lane, Grendon, Warwickshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

In August 2019 Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Consulting Ltd to evaluate a site at Spon Lane, Grendon, Warwickshire. The evaluation consisted of 29 trenches, representing a 4% sample of the development area. Two post-medieval field boundary ditches and a large quarry pit were revealed and sampled, and a large undated ditch was uncovered in Trenches 12, 11 and 21, with the only find being burnt lumps of coal. Based on these results the archaeological potential of the site is considered to be low.

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Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Alexandra Thornton, RPS Consulting Ltd, for commissioning this project on behalf of her client. Thanks are also extended to the Warwickshire County Archaeologist for monitoring the work.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Carl Champness. The fieldwork was conducted by Gary Evans assisted by Tom Bruce, Camille Guezennec, Caroline Souday and Conan Parsons. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Diana Chard and Benjamin Brown. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that prepared the archive under the supervision of Nicky Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by RPS Consulting Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation at Spon Lane, Grendon, Warwickshire, in advance of a proposed new housing development. A total of 29 trenches were excavated across the site to investigate the archaeological potential.
- 1.1.2 Outline planning permission was granted for residential development in April 2017 (North Warwickshire District Council reference PAP/2017/0156). The Reserved Matters application (PAP/2019/0156) was submitted in March 2019 and is pending decision from the District Council. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by RPS Heritage detailing the Local Authority's requirements for archaeological works necessary to inform the planning condition (RPS 2019). This document outlines the results of the archaeological evaluation works.
- 1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (2014) and local and national planning policies.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site is located to the east of the village of Grendon, which is c 7.5km to the south-east of Tamworth (National grid reference: SP 280 995; Fig. 1). Spon Lane lies to the west of the site, Watling Street to the south-west, the access and buildings of Dairy House Farm to the north-west and open farmland to the east. The site slopes gently northwards, with its highest point being 90m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the southern end of the site and 75m aOD at the north. The nearest natural watercourse is the River Anker c 970m to the north-east of the site.
- 1.2.2 The underlying solid geology within the site is mapped as mudstone, siltstone and sandstone (BGS Online Viewer). There is no superficial geology recorded on the site. The Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983) identifies the soils of the study site as belonging to Whimple 3 Association, which are typical stagnogleyic brown earths (reddish, fine loams or fine silty over clayey soils).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological context and the potential archaeological significance of the development site has been considered in a desk-based assessment prepared by CgMs (now RPS Consulting Ltd) in 2016 (Report reference AR/SM/22495/01) and a geophysical survey undertaken as part of a wider survey by Stratascan in 2013.
- 1.3.2 The site is located in what seems to have been a very poorly settled landscape in the prehistoric period with woods and heathlands possibly providing seasonal pasture compared to the more intensively developed crop-growing region to the south. By the late Iron Age, hillforts throughout the region served as regional centres, but the majority of settlements within the seems to have been farmsteads. A Mesolithic or

Neolithic flint blade was found during a fieldwalking survey c 0.9km to the west of the site (WA 2011). No other prehistoric evidence has been found within the area.

- 1.3.3 There is no evidence of Romano-British occupation within the site and no targets were identified during the geophysical survey. It does, however, lie adjacent to the Roman Watling Street, which the modern A5 follows. There is only one Roman findspot (a gold ring) recorded within the surrounding area, discovered during metal detecting c 0.7km to the east of the site.
- 1.3.4 There is little information on Grendon before the Norman Conquest. It is known that the settlement was held by the Saxon Siward Barn along with other property but, after the Conquest his lands were confiscated and given to Henry Ferrers by William I, as mentioned in the Domesday Book.
- 1.3.5 Grendon is a settlement of early medieval origin, but there is no surviving evidence for this activity within the area. There is no evidence to suggest that the site was anything other than the agricultural hinterland of Grendon during this period.
- 1.3.6 The site continued to develop during the post-medieval period, with many of the historic buildings in the area dating back to this period. The 1885 OS map demonstrates that by this date the site comprised three fields associated with Dairy Farm to the immediate north-east. The site has retained its agricultural character throughout the 20th and 21st century. Two post-medieval field boundaries, of low archaeological interest, were recorded on the geophysical survey.

1.4 Previous archaeological investigations

- 1.4.1 A geophysical survey was previously undertaken on the study site (Stratascan 2013) as part of a wider survey of c 13.4ha, incorporating the adjacent area to the west, in support of an outline planning application (ref: PAP/2013/0224). This involved detailed magnetic survey (gradiometry) which identified two anomalies in the site likely to be related to two post-medieval field boundaries. Several pit-like anomalies were also identified and are of possible archaeological origin; however, their amorphous character and weak magnetic value means that these features could equally be caused by changes in geology or pedology.
- 1.4.2 In the adjacent field to the west, trial trench evaluation that followed the geophysical survey identified four possible former field boundaries, all undated (Trent & Peak Archaeology 2015). Pit-like anomalies similar to those identified in the study site were targeted, with no archaeological deposits encountered at the relevant locations except in a single instance where one of the four possible field boundaries was recorded.

1.5 Archaeological potential

- 1.5.1 Although there have been no archaeological remains recovered from the site to date and little from the immediately surrounding area, the site is located next to Watling Street, and therefore Roman activity may have developed along its route.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The evaluation aims and objectives were as follows:

- i. To determine the presence or otherwise of buried remains of archaeological interest ('heritage assets') within the development site;
- ii. To provide detailed information regarding the date, character, extent, integrity and degree of preservation of any identified archaeological assets;
- iii. To provide sufficient information to enable a reasoned decision to be made about the need for any further archaeological measures;
- iv. To produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Warwickshire HER.

2.1.2 The programme of archaeological investigation was conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by the West Midlands Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas (Watt 2016).

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 A programme of 29 50m by 2m trenches, representing a 4% sample of the development area, were laid out as shown in Figure 2 using a GPS. The trenches were excavated using a 16 tonne mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was stored adjacent to but at a safe distance from the trench edges.

2.2.2 Machining was undertaken in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology or the first archaeological horizon depending on which was encountered first. Once archaeological deposits were exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand and the appropriate use of a machine.

2.2.3 The exposed surface was sufficiently cleaned to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains. A sample of each feature or deposit type was excavated and recorded. Excavation was sufficient to resolve the principle aims of the evaluation.

2.2.4 All potential features within the trenches were investigated and the trenches were then archaeologically recorded. Once discussed with and signed off by the County Archaeologist, the trenches were then backfilled.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. The specialist find reports can be found in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of silty gravel with patches of silty clay and chalk was overlain by a reddish brown silty sand subsoil, which in turn was overlain by ploughsoil.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of deposits

3.3.1 No archaeological features or deposits were uncovered in the majority of the trenches. However, a series of plough furrows, two field boundary ditches, a quarry pit and a large undated ditch were revealed and sampled during the evaluation.

Plough furrows

3.3.2 A series of plough furrows identified during the earlier geophysical survey were uncovered in Trenches 5, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 25 (Plates 1-4). All contained similar sterile fills. A shallow furrow 1502 was excavated in Trench 15. This was 0.15m deep, and contained no finds.

Post-medieval field boundaries and quarry pits

3.3.3 In Trench 29 two inter-cutting parallel ditches (2902 and 2905) were uncovered at the northern end of the trench (Fig. 3; Plates 5-6). These appeared to be former field boundary ditches, which were both aligned SW-NE, between 0.2m and 0.25m deep respectively and 0.53m and 1.04m wide. The fill (2904) of the later ditch (2905) contained pottery dating to the 18th-19th century. These ditches appeared to respect the present-day field boundary alignments on site.

3.3.4 An undated ditch was also uncovered in Trench 14 running east to west across the southern end of the trench (Plate 7-8). Ditch 1402 was 1.34m wide and 0.37m deep and contained two fills (Fig. 3; 1403 and 1404), both of which produced no finds. Again the ditch was on a similar alignment to the modern field boundaries.

3.3.5 A large quarry pit (2702), at least 11.5m in width, was identified within Trench 27. The pit was partially excavated to recover finds. The pit produced an assemblage of 18th-19th century pottery, ceramic building material and glass.

Large undated ditch

- 3.3.6 A wide undated ditch was observed running through Trenches 11, 12 and 21 (1104, 1204 and 2107). This was 0.6m deep, between 3.4m and 5.4m wide, and filled with two sterile clayey silt fills (Fig. 3; Plates 9-10). The fills contained quantities of burnt coal lumps but no other finds or dating material were recovered within the two interventions undertaken through the ditch. Its exact nature was not fully established and its path is not shown on any of the historical mapping for the site.

Modern features

- 3.3.7 Several modern pits and probable quarry pits were uncovered in Trenches 2, 8, and 9.

3.4 Finds and environmental summaries

- 3.4.1 Twelve post-medieval sherds weighing 143g were recovered from boundary ditch 2901, within Trench 29. The sherds were from a single cylindrical tankard in Staffordshire-type mottled brown glazed ware with handle stub and bands of reeded decoration.
- 3.4.2 A small assemblage of 18th-19th century pottery (weighing 5g), ceramic building material and glass was recovered from feature fill 2704, in Trench 27, from a potential quarry pit.
- 3.4.3 No features suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the evaluation.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Evaluation objectives and results

4.1.1 The fieldwork was undertaken over a period of two weeks in good conditions. The majority of the trenches were dug at their proposed locations with only slight modifications necessary due to boundary fencing. The evaluation was therefore able to achieve good coverage of the proposed development area and the results can be considered to provide a reliable assessment of the archaeological potential of the site.

4.2 Interpretation and conclusion

4.2.1 The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological remains in the area of the development. In all the trenches the topsoil and subsoil were very sterile and the remains of ridge and furrow were recorded across the site. A small number of natural features and furrows were investigated as a precaution.

4.2.2 The evaluation suggests that the site has been in mostly agricultural use since the medieval period. Evidence of former post-medieval field boundaries and quarry pits were identified in a number of the trenches and these aligned with the network of modern fields in the area. The undated large ditch could not be dated or defined fully as part of the evaluation. Based on these results the archaeological potential of the site is considered to be low.

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APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
100	Topsoil	-	0.28	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
102	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, clay silt	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
200	Top soil	-	0.3	Firm greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
201	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, clay silt with yellow lenses of silt and blue clay with rocks	-	-
202	Modern feature	0.36	0.2 (+)	Linear feature vertical sides probable test pit only partly excavated	-	Modern
203	Fill	0.36	0.2 (+)	Firm pink clay with charcoal blue clay redeposited natural	-	Modern

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
300	Topsoil	-	0.26	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
302	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, silty clay yellow lenses of silt and blue clay with rocks	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
400	Topsoil	-	0.3	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
401	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, silty clay yellow lenses of silt and blue clay with rocks	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Six post-medieval parallel plough furrows. trench devoid of other archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
500	Topsoil	-	0.26	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
501	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, silty clay yellowish brown lenses of silty clay with sandstone	-	-
502	Plough Furrow	1	0.15	Aligned NNE-SSW	-	-
503	Fill of 502	1	0.15	Firm light pinkish brown clayey silt	-	-
504	Plough Furrow	1	-	Aligned NNE-SSE. Not excavated	-	-
505	Plough Furrow	1.1	-	Aligned NNE-SSE. Not excavated	-	-
506	Plough Furrow	1.1	-	Aligned NNE-SSE. Not excavated	-	-
507	Plough Furrow	1.3	-	Aligned NNE-SSE. Not excavated	-	-
508	Plough Furrow	1.1	-	Aligned NNE-SSE. Not excavated	-	-
509	Fill of 504	1	-	Firm light pinkish brown clayey silt. Not excavated	-	-
510	Fill of 505	1.1	-	Firm light pinkish brown clayey silt. Not excavated	-	-
511	Fill of 506	1.1	-	Firm light pinkish brown clayey silt. Not excavated	-	-
512	Fill of 507	1.3	-	Firm light pinkish brown clayey silt. Not excavated	-	-
513	Fill of 508	5.1	-	Firm light pinkish brown clayey silt. Not excavated	-	-

Trench 6		
General description	Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.	Avg. depth (m)	0.3
	Width (m)	1.8

					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
600	Top soil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
601	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellow orange, clay silt with red patches of clay with sandstone	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil/colluvial overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
700	Top soil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
701	Subsoil/colluvial	-	80mm	Brown clay silt with frequent manganese flecks	-	-
702	Natural Geology	-	-	Red clay orange brown, clay silt with sandstone	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology. Possible made ground modern quarry					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
800	Top soil	-	0.3	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
801	Possible modern	-	0.6 (+)	Friable Patches of yellowish orange greyish brown clay	-	-

	quarry or Natural Geology			with frequent pebbles sandstone also redeposited light blue clay charcoal flecks		
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Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology. Possible made ground modern quarry at southern edge of trench					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
900	Top soil	-	0.28	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
901	Possible modern quarry or Natural Geology	6m	0.1 (+)	Friable Mixed patchy deposit Patches of yellowish greyish brown silty clay with frequent pebbles and red sandstone also redeposited light blue clay charcoal flecks	-	-
902	Natural Geology	-	-	Yellowish grey silty clay fragments of sandstone	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil/colluvial overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1000	Top soil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1001	Subsoil/colluvial	-	0.12	Mid-dark Brown clay silt with frequent manganese flecks	-	-
1002	Natural Geology	-	-	Mid -light yellowish brown silty clay	-	-

Trench 11

General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology. Undated ditch					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1100	Top soil	-	0.35	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1101	Natural Geology	-	-	Mid reddish brown silty clay	-	-
1102	Fill of 1104	5.4	0.3	Light brown silty clay burnt coal fragments	-	-
1103	Fill of 1104	3.3	0.4	Brown with frequent dark brown mottling clay silt burnt coal	-	-
1104	Ditch	5.4	0.6	Concave base gradual sloping sides	-	-
1105	Fill of 1104	4	0.12	Reddish brown silty clay no inclusions	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology. Undated ditch					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1200	Topsoil	-	0.35	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1201	Natural Geology	-	-	Mid reddish brown silty clay	-	-
1202	Upper Fill of 1204	3	0.4	Light brown silty clay burnt coal fragments	-	-
1202	Lower Fill of 1204	3.4	0.2	Brown with frequent dark brown mottling clay silt burnt coal	-	-

1204	Ditch	3.4	0.6	gradual sides concave base	-	-
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Trench 13						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1300	Top soil	-	0.24	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1301	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm greyish yellow brown, silty clay silt with red patches of sandstone	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology. One E-W aligned ditch					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1400	Top soil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1401	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellow orange, clay silt with patches of red clay with sandstone	-	-
1402	Field boundary Ditch	1.34	0.37	E-W aligned ditch	-	-
1403	Upper Fill of 1302	1.34	0.22	Firm mid-light brownish grey clayey silt moderated brown flecks rare stones	-	-
1404	Lower Fill of 1402	0.94	0.14	Firm light -mid yellow orange brownish grey silty clay moderate manganese mottles rare round stones	-	--

Trench 15						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Three post-medieval parallel plough furrows. trench devoid of other archaeology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1500	Topsoil	-	0.26	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1501	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish orange, silty clay with sandstone	-	-
1502	Plough Furrow	1.8	0.18	Aligned NE-SW shallow sub flat base	-	-
1503	Fill of 1502	1.8	0.14	Firm mid brown clayey silt some stones	-	-
1504	Plough Furrow	1.1	-	Aligned NE-SE. Not excavated	-	-
1505	Fill of 1504	1.1	-	Firm mid brown clayey silt some stones	-	-
1506	Plough Furrow	1.1	-	Aligned NNE-SSE. Not excavated	-	-
1507	Fill of 1506	1.1	-	Firm mid brown clayey silt some stones	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1600	Top soil	-	0.28	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-

1601	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellow orange, clay silt with red patches of clay with sandstone	-	-
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Trench 17						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1700	Top soil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1701	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown silty clay with sandstone	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and colluvial/subsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1800	Top soil	-	0.28	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1801	Subsoil/colluvial	-	0.16	Mid reddish brown silty clay	-	-
1802	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellow grey, clay silt with red patches of red clay with sandstone	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35

					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1900	Top soil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
1901	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellow grey, silt clay with patches of blue grey and red clay with sandstone	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Three post-medieval parallel plough furrows. Trench devoid of other archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2000	Topsoil	-	0.28	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2001	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish grey silty clay lenses of blue grey clay with sandstone	-	-
2002	Plough Furrow	2.5	-	Not excavated	-	-
2003	Fill of 2002	2.5	-	Firm light greyish brown silty clayey	-	-
2004	Fill of 2005	2	-	Firm light greyish brown silty clayey	-	-
2005	Plough Furrow	2	-	Not excavated	-	-
2006	Fill of 2007	2	-	Firm light greyish brown silty clayey	-	-
2007	Plough Furrow	2	-	Not excavated	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Two parallel plough furrows. One ditch. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2100	Topsoil	-	0.28	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2101	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish grey silty clay lenses of red clay with sandstone	-	-
2102	Fill of 2103	1.5	-	Mid brown with dark brown mottles clay silt	-	-
2103	Plough Furrow	1.5	-	Not excavated	-	-
2104	Fill of 2105	1.5	-	Mid brown with dark brown mottles clay silt	-	-
2105	Plough Furrow	1.5	-	Not excavated	-	-
2106	Fill of 2107	2	-	Mid grey brown with dark brown mottles clay silt	-	-
2107	Ditch	2	-	Not excavated	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Two post-medieval parallel plough furrows. One ditch. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date

2200	Topsoil	-	0.2	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2201	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish grey silty clay lenses of red clay with sandstone	-	-
2202	Fill of 2203	2	-	Light brown with dark clay silt	-	-
2103	Plough Furrow	2	-	Not excavated	-	-
2104	Fill of 2105	2	-	Light brown with dark clay silt	-	-
2105	Plough Furrow	2	-	Not excavated	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology. One post-medieval plough furrow					Avg. depth (m)	0.26
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2300	Topsoil	-	0.26	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2301	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm orange brown grey silty clay fragments of sandstone	-	-
2302	Fill of 2303	2.5	-	Greyish brown clay silt	-	-
2303	Plough Furrow	2.5	-	Not excavated	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2400	Topsoil	-	0.3	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2402	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish orange, clay silt	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.25
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2500	Topsoil	-	0.3	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2501	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish orange, clay silt sandstone	-	-

Trench 26						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2600	Topsoil	-	0.3	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2601	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm yellowish grey, clay silt	-	-

Trench 27						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology with a cut of late post-medieval boundary ditch.					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2700	Topsoil	-	0.28	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2701	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm brownish red, clay silt with patches of sandstone	-	-
2702	Modern feature	9	0.5 (+)	Large modern feature base not reached at 0.5m	yes	Modern
2703	Fill of 2702	9	0.1	Soft dark blackish brown silty clay charcoal	yes	Modern
2704	Fill of 2702	9	0.1	Soft mid reddish brown clayed silt frequent sandstone inclusions	Yes	Modern

Trench 28						
General description					Orientation	SW-NN
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a possible sub soil or colluvial above natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5

					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2800	Topsoil	-	0.32	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2801	Subsoil /colluvial		0.14	Mid yellowish brown clayey silt moderate manganese	-	-
2802	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, clay silt	-	-

Trench 29						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Two inter cutting parallel ditches. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2900	Topsoil	-	0.3	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	-
2901	Natural Geology	-	-	Firm reddish brown, clay silt	-	-
2902	Field boundary Ditch	0.53	0.2	SW-NE aligned. moderately sloping sides, concave base	-	-
2903	Fill of 2902	0.53	0.2	Firm mid yellowish brown clay silt occasional rounded stones charcoal flecks cut by ditch 2904	yes	Post-medieval field boundary
2904	Field boundary Ditch	1.04	0.25	SW-NE aligned moderately sloping sides, concave base	-	-
2905	Fill of 2904	1.04	0.25	Firm dark greyish brown clay silt occasional rounded sub	-	-

				rounded flecks	stones	charcoal		
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APPENDIX B FINDS REPORT

B.1 Pottery

Identified by John Cotter

Context	Description	Date
2704	Three sherds cream ware (CREADEV). 5g.	1760–1830
2903	Twelve sherds from a single cylindrical tankard in Staffordshire-type mottled brown glazed ware (STMO) with handle stub and bands of reeded decoration. 143g	1680–1800

B.2 Ceramic building material

Identified by John Cotter

Context	Description	Date
2704	Edge fragment of flat roof tile. 77g	17th–19th century

B.3 Glass

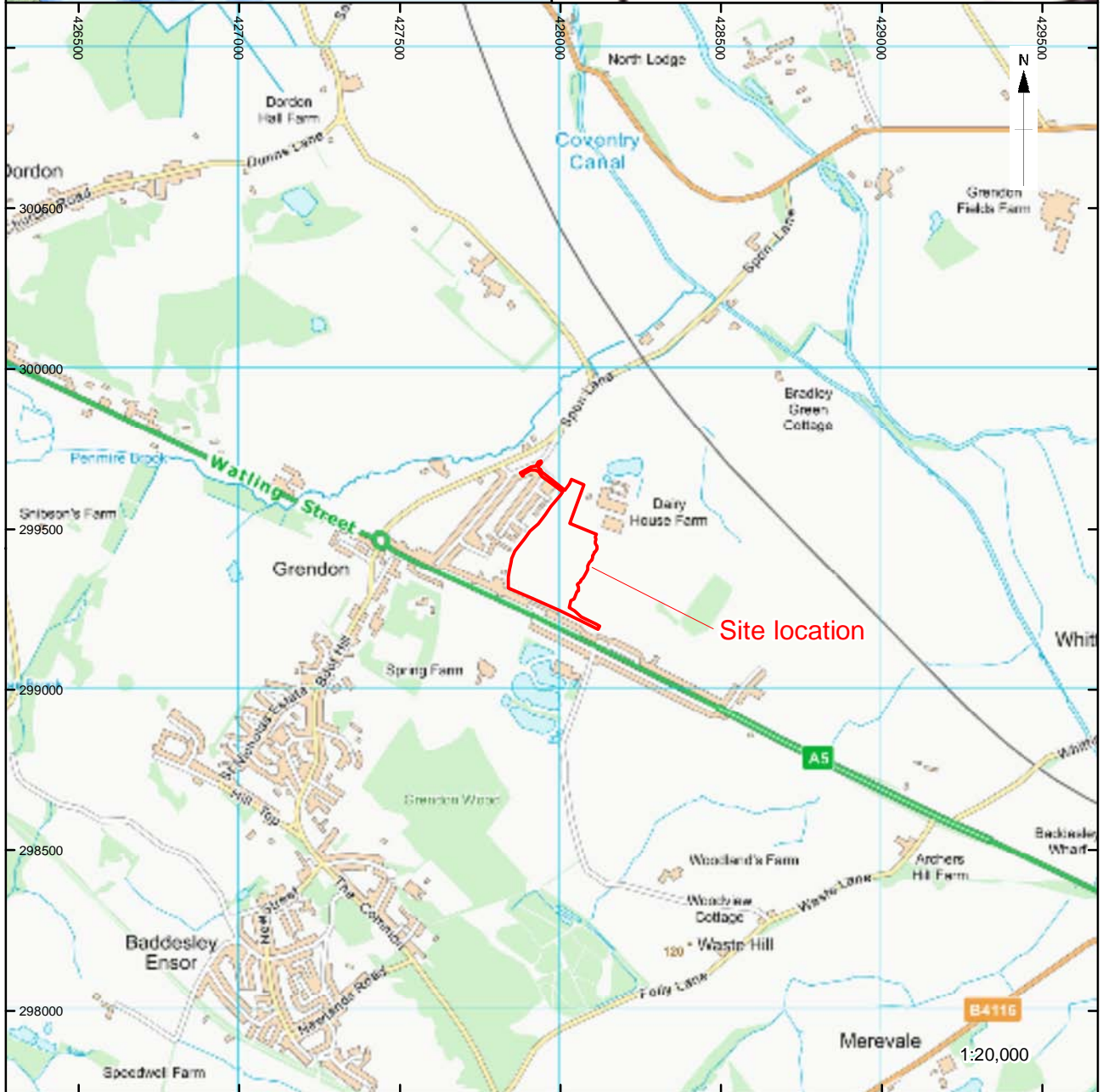
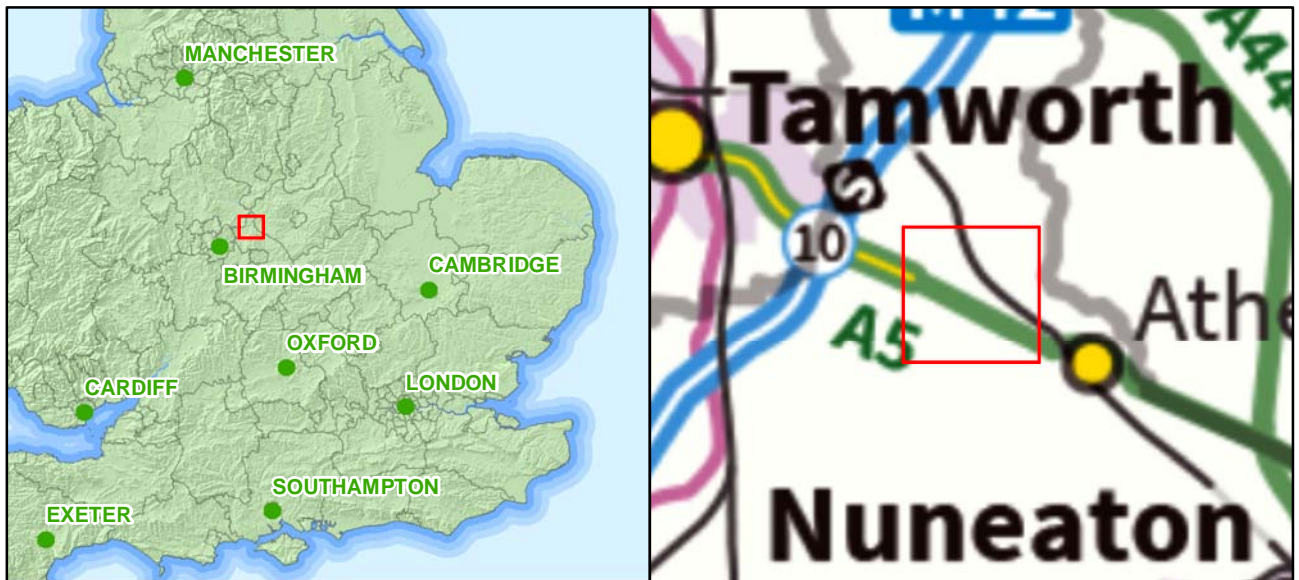
Identified by John Cotter

Context	Description	Date
2704	One sherd of clear glass from bottle or phial. 2g	18th–19th century

APPENDIX C

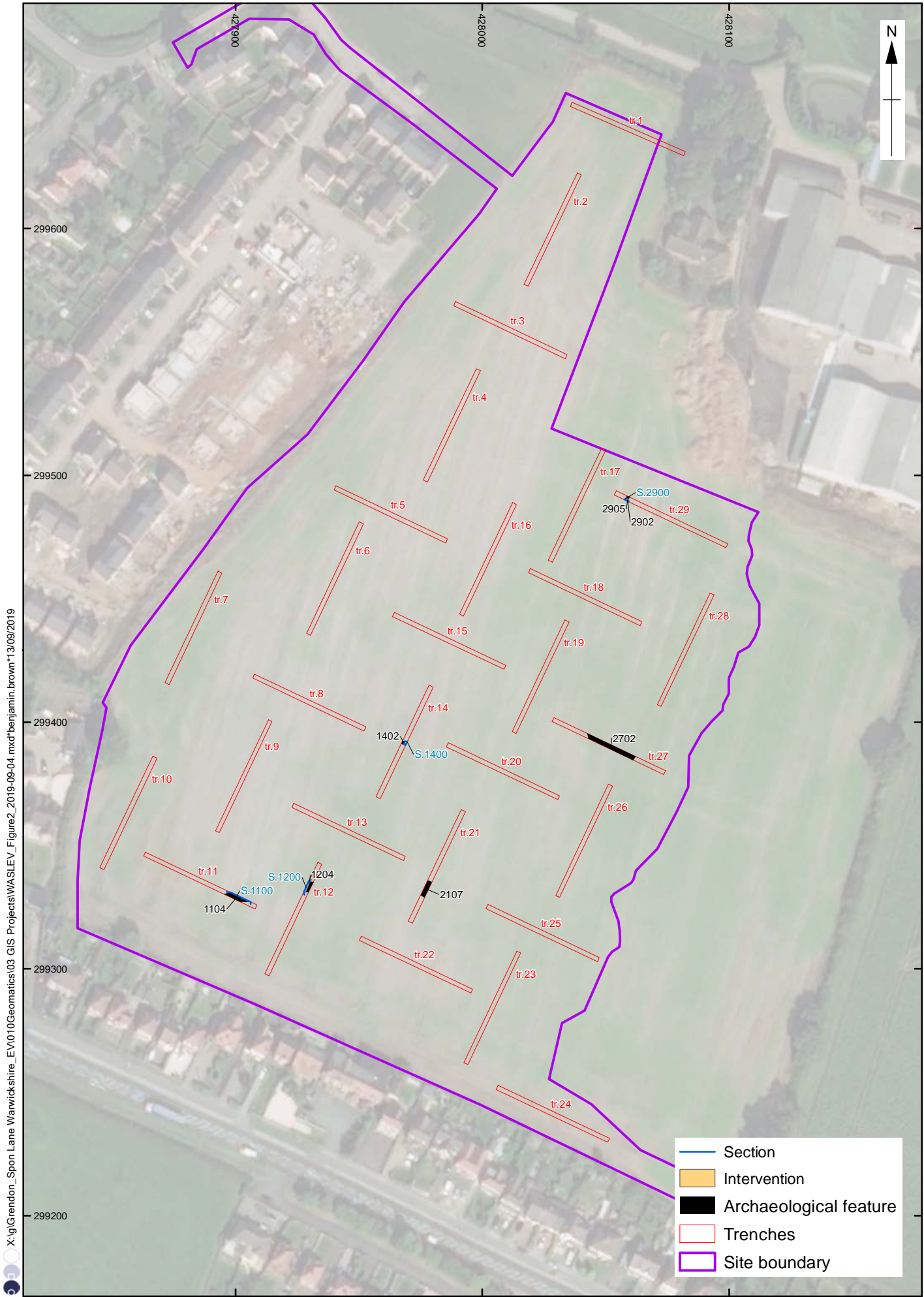
SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	Spon Lane, Grendon, Warwickshire
Site code:	WASL19
Grid Reference	SP 280 995
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	29th July and 9th August 2019
Area of Site	29 trenches 50m long and 1.8m wide.
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Warwickshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession code: WASL19
Summary of Results:	Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Consulting Ltd to evaluate a site at Spon Lane, Grendon, Warwickshire. The evaluation consisted of 29 trenches, representing a 4% sample of the development area. A post-medieval field boundary ditch and large quarry pit were revealed and sampled, and a large undated ditch was uncovered in Trenches 12, 11 and 21, with the only find being burnt lumps of coal, suggesting a late post-medieval or modern date. Based on these results the archaeological potential of the site is considered to be low.



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Figure 1: Site location



X:\ig\Grendon_Spon Lane Warwickshire_EV10\Geomatics\03 GIS Projects\WASLEY_Figure2_2019-09-04.mxd\benjamin.brown\13/09/2019

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User

Figure 2: Trench locations

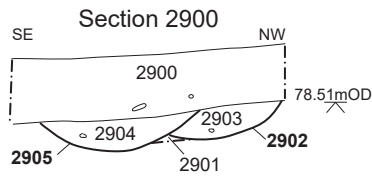
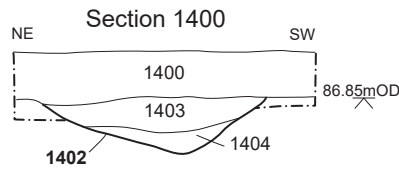
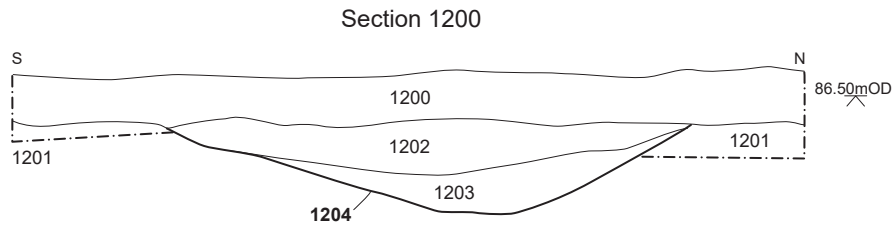
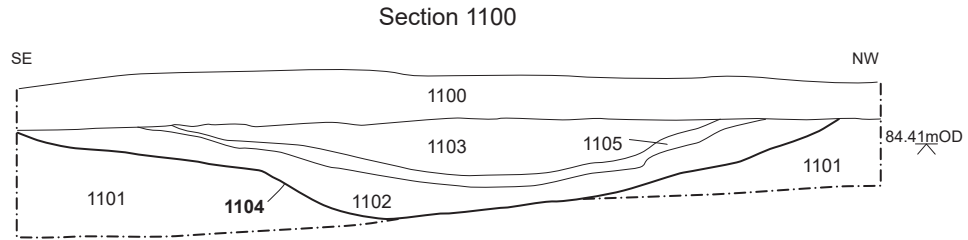


Figure 3: Sections 1100, 1200, 1400 and 2900



Plate 1: Trench 5 looking southeast (1m and 2m scales)



Plate 2: Trench 20 looking northwest (1m and 2m scales)



Plate 3: Trench 21 looking southwest (1m and 2m scales)



Plate 4: Trench 26 looking northwest (1m and 2m scales)



Plate 5: Trench 29 looking east (1m and 2m scales)



Plate 6: Post-medieval field boundary ditches 2902 and 2904 looking south (1m scale)



Plate 7: Trench 14 looking east (1m and 2m scales)



Plate 8: Post-medieval field boundary ditch 1402 looking southeast (2m scale)



Plate 9: Large undated ditch 1104 looking south (2m scale)



Plate 10: Large undated ditch 1206 looking northwest (2m scale)



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